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Thatcher remembered

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ONE FOR THE ROAD

Colorado Avalanche winger David Jones tries to skate past Calgary Flames centre Max Reinhart on Monday in Denver, Colo. The Flames snapped a 13-game road losing streak with a 3-1 win. **Story, page 21.** CHRIS SCHNEIDER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Families fear tougher DUI laws being ignored

Penalties. Maintaining compliance with Alberta's impaired laws could pose challenges over long term

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Kim Thomas makes a point of visiting her son's roadside memorial every weekend.

This past Saturday marked four months since 17-year-old Brandon Thomas of Cochrane was killed by a pickup truck, which RCMP allege was being operated by an impaired driver and travelling in the wrong lane on Highway 22.

Brandon died on scene, and Calgary resident Ryan Jordan Gibson, 22, faces multiple charges.

Since the death, Kim has become a proponent for harsher drunk-driving penalties. But now she fears new data from Calgary police indicate tougher penalties for both .08 and .05 driver blood-alcohol readings are being increasingly ignored.

"Maybe if some people weren't so complacent Brandon would still be here," she said.

The new statistics reinforce initial concerns from city police after impaired-driving charges laid over the holiday season remained steady when compared to the year prior. Over the first two months of 2013, police have laid about four per cent fewer Criminal Code charges for impaired driving and refusing to provide a breath sample.

This comes despite harsher penalties introduced in July that see any motorist accused of being impaired barred from driving until the matter is resolved in court. Initial figures provided in the fall saw sharper declines in charges.

Wayne Kauffeldt, whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver, said he's always been concerned that the tougher law would follow a similar path as provincewide distracted-driving legislation introduced in 2011. Calgary police reported that while compliance with that law was good initially, it slowly tapered off as motorists returned to old habits.

"Quite frankly, drinking and driving have become so much the culture over a number of years that's it a very hard thing to instantly change," he said.

But the Alberta government has long maintained true proof of whether the laws have been effective will lie in impaired-collision statistics. A Calgary police spokesperson said last week the service is still working to provide hard data in that area.

Alberta Transportation spokesperson Parker Hogan said many factors need to be considered when looking at the police statistics, but he added a warning for those still tipping back a few too many before driving.

"It's the law," he said. "If you break the law, there are going to be consequences."

Follow Jeremy Nolais on Twitter @Metro_Nolais

Quoted

"Reality has become a horrible place when you wake up every day and realize he's not coming home."

Kim Thomas, whose son Brandon was allegedly killed by an impaired driver

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Access Calgary. Disabled hit hard by 'one-kilometre' transit rule

Advocates for the disabled are calling on the city to scrap a policy they say is unfair to mobility-challenged Calgarians who need to travel to areas where transit service is sparse.

"This is an issue people really need to speak up about," said Lucy Fowler, whose sister Maria Racioppi is disabled.

For years, Racioppi relied on affordable transportation from Access Calgary, which provides door-to-door service to roughly 15,000 Calgarians with disabilities. Now she faces an extra $20 fee — each way — for trips to Fowler's home in Springbank Hill, because the house is more than one kilometre from a bus stop. For trips within that radius, the fee is just $3, the same as a regular transit fare.

The one-kilometre policy has been on the books for many years, spokesman Stephen Tauro said, but the city recently started enforcing it more stringently. He noted Access Calgary has worked with customers and given them time to adjust.

The Alberta Cerebral Palsy Association has received numerous complaints about the policy, according to associate executive director Mezaun Lakha-Evin.

She said the association put out a survey on the topic on Friday, and by Monday had received more than 50 responses.

Lakha-Evin said the $20 fee is particularly burdensome for disabled people, since many are on fixed incomes.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Alberta Health Services board chair Stephen Lockwood says he has not ruled out adjusting executives' salaries to make up for the loss of pay-at-risk. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

AHS 'bonuses' cut, but pay could be 'adjusted': Board

New fiscal year. Agency looking for $220M in cost-savings through 'efficiencies'

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Controversial performance pay for senior health officials has been eliminated, but that doesn't mean executives will take a pay cut, says the chairman of the Alberta Health Services board.

Stephen Lockwood said Monday that "pay-at-risk" was eliminated for AHS executives as of the agency's new fiscal year, which began on April 1.

The conditional pay has been widely described as a "bonus," but Lockwood said Monday that is incorrect.

"It's not a bonus," he said.

Nevertheless, he said negative public perception of this form of compensation, intended to motivate executives to meet performance targets, has made it counter-productive.

"When you start to be criticized in the paper for receiving your 'bonus,' that's a demotivator," Lockwood said. "So I've concluded, and our board has concluded, the best way to motivate our team is to take that irritant away from them, so it's not there anymore."

And while AHS has committed to a three-year compensation freeze for management, Lockwood didn't rule out adjusting executives' salaries to account for the loss of pay-at-risk.

"We'll look at those salaries, we'll adjust them accordingly, if necessary," he said, adding that an independent third party will review overall executive compensation.

But Derek Fildebrandt of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation described pay-at-risk and bonuses as "effectively the same thing" and said they do serve a useful purpose.

"I think it would be a mistake to simply do away with them and make them guaranteed salaries, essentially incorporating the bonuses as permanent," Fildebrandt said.

Quantity vs. quality

- To trim administration costs by 10 per cent, AHS will look at reducing the number of administrators rather than reducing salaries, board chair Stephen Lockwood said.
- "I'd rather have really smart, really innovative, highly paid people. But you've got to make sure that you don't have too many," he said.

'Interim solution' will ease S.W. school crunch: CBE

Two city schools have been spared from taking on additional students enrolled in popular French- and Spanish-language programs — for now.

The Calgary Board of Education on Monday announced an "interim solution" that will see Grade 5 students at the full-capacity Westgate School move to Bishop Pinkham, but will exclude two other possible "feeder" schools in A.E. Cross and Jenny Elliott.

Parents of children at the latter school have called for a delay on the decision, launching an online petition and even going door-to-door to rally support.

Katie McBeath and her kids were out rallying support for Jennie Elliott School last month. METRO FILE

One of those parents, Amy Lonsberry, said she is thrilled that a decision about her community school will be put off for at least a year.

"A lot can happen in that time," she said. "I am so thankful that they seem to have heard our concerns."

But CBE officials cautioned in Monday's memo that "finding accommodation solutions in the future will require flexibility."

Those same officials were not available for comment before press time on Monday.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

City hall. Light-pollution bylaw will let stars shine

Noting Calgary is one of the most highly visible cities from space, city council unanimously moved to change that on Monday, approving a policy aimed at reducing the amount of light shining skyward.

The "Bright Skies" bylaw subjects new outdoor light fixtures to rules designed to reduce the amount of light "spill" onto adjacent properties and into the sky.

Ald. Brian Pincott, who put forward the bylaw, said the goal is to reduce the amount of "wasted light," not to darken city streets, as some critics alleged.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi agreed.

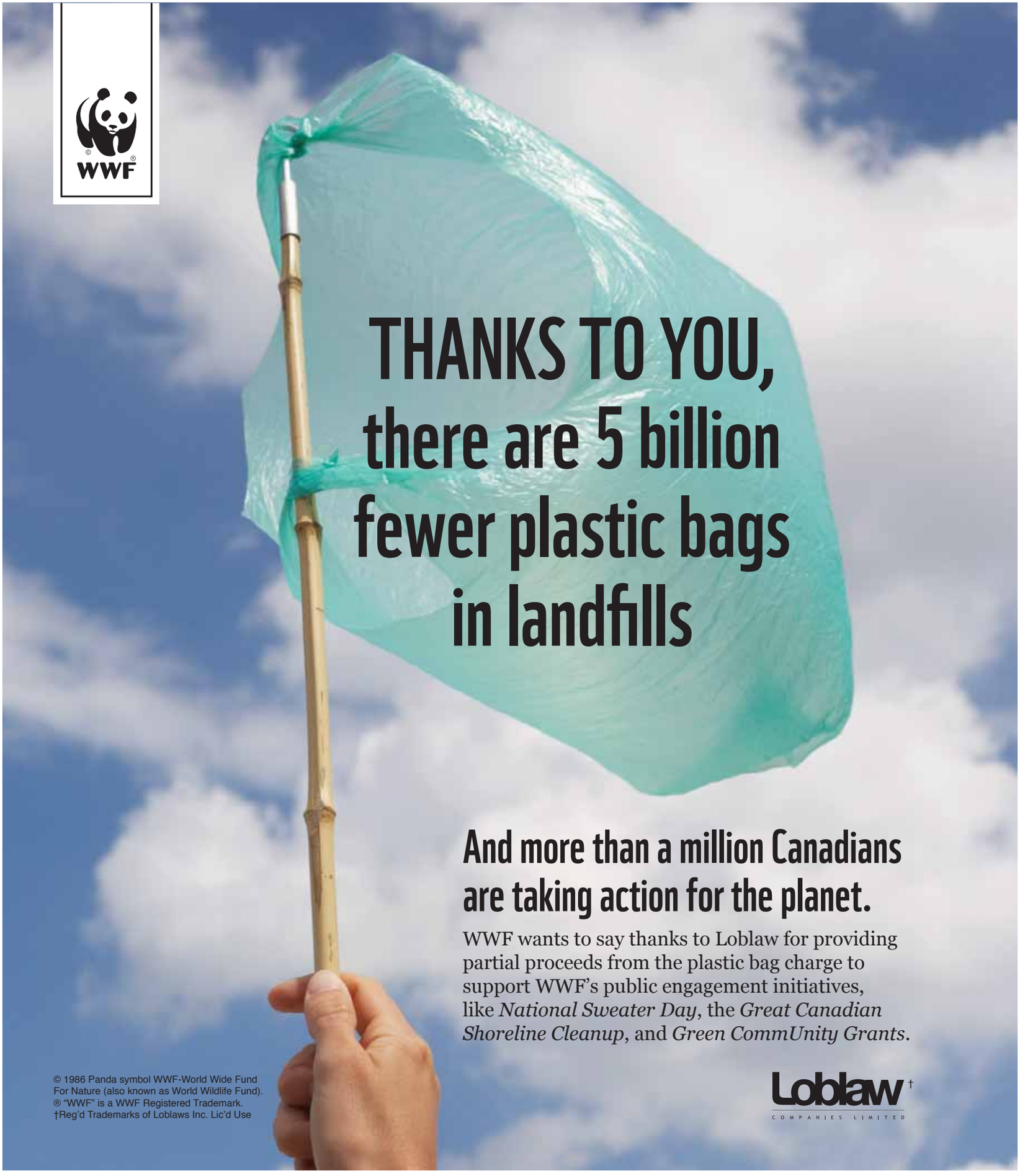
"This particular amendment is really about focusing the light," Nenshi said.

Phil Langill, director of the Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, thanked council for the policy, noting light from the city already obscures a significant portion of the observatory's view of the night sky.

"The sky becomes as bright as the stars and you can't see what you're interested in studying," he said.

The bylaw is not retroactive, city staff noted, meaning existing buildings and light fixtures are not affected.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO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Red symbols worn in protest of budget

Rally. Calgary and Edmonton students plan unified outcry against funding cuts

Students and faculty at a Calgary university have turned to a symbol made popular by disgruntled Quebec protestors as they push back against cuts to provincial post-secondary education funding.

Pieces of red felt cut in the shape of Alberta are being pinned to jackets and shirts around campus at Mount Royal University, and instructor Roberta Lexier is inviting others interested in wearing the symbol to stop by her office.

"I think the attitude really started to change when information came out about how bad these cuts are and what kind of impact they're going to have," said Lexier, who has tracked the patterns of large-scale protests in the past, even offering a course at Mount Royal on the Occupy movement.

Students in Quebec wore red squares on their clothes during widespread — and, at times, raucous — protests against tuition hikes last year that garnered national headlines.

The Alberta symbols were created by the Student Empowerment Committee, which is also planning a rally at Mount Royal's east entrance Wednesday morning in the face of a 7.3 per cent cut to funding for the institution, outlined in last month's provincial budget.

"It was symbolic of being in the red, which means student debt," said committee spokesperson Desdemona Lunz. "We made it in the shape of Alberta because, while our main focus as students is the post-secondary education cuts, we also realize this budget is really bad for other sectors, such as health care." JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Mount Royal University instructor Roberta Lexier shows off an Alberta-shaped piece of felt that she, fellow faculty members and students will be wearing as a symbol to protest cuts to funding. DEREK QUAN/FOR METRO

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Mom says she heard babies cry before tossing them out in trash

A woman charged with killing two of her newborns admitted to police that she heard the babies cry before she put them in trash bags and dropped them into garbage bins, but denied doing anything to hurt them before she threw them away.

Meredith Borowiec, 31, told police she had her first child in 2008 and didn't even look to see whether it was a boy or a girl before she wrapped the infant in a towel and put it in a garbage bag.

She also admitted to the same scenario in 2009 when she again gave birth into a toilet in her northwest Calgary apartment.

In a lengthy video interview with police after her arrest in November 2011, Borowiec says she heard a noise "like a kitten" after the birth of the first child and, the following year, was aware the second child was alive as well.

Borowiec was initially charged with attempted murder after another newborn was saved from a trash bin outside the woman's home in 2010. She was later charged with second-degree murder in the deaths of the two other babies that investigators believe were born previously.

The interview video was played Monday at her trial on the murder charges.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charged with fraud

Man allegedly used bloody receipts for returns

Calgary police have charged a man they say cut himself with razor blades while shopping at local stores as part of a fraud scam.

Police allege Rodney Bradt would pretend he was returning items and blood would be smeared on the receipt, making it difficult for staff to read it. METRO

Feedback. City exploring multi-family recycling

City officials will present the public with three different options for multi-family recycling as part of reaching Calgary's waste-diversion targets.

With council poised to make a decision on green-cart recycling in the coming weeks, city officials have now set their sights on recycling for apartment and condo dwellers.

Waste diversion specialist Philippa Wagner said they've been engaging stakeholders in the recycling industry since the fall of 2011 and are now ready for feedback from the public. The response from Calgarians will be used in creating a report to be presented to council.

Calgary has a target of diverting 80 per cent of the waste from landfills by 2020, and Wagner said multi-family recycling will be an important part of the plan. KATIE TURNER/METRO

Girls plead not guilty to pimping other girls

Trial begins. Teens accused of running child prostitution ring with threats, violence

JESSICA SMITH
Metro in Ottawa

The youngest victim of a prostitution trafficking ring, then 13, believed she was heading to a sleepover with girls, not much older than herself, who she'd met online — but instead she was drugged, stripped, photographed and pimped out, the Crown alleges.

Crown lawyers began arguing their case Monday against three teenage girls, two aged 15 and one 16 when they allegedly ran a prostitution ring in Ottawa last year.

All three pleaded not guilty to 36 charges, including human trafficking, forcible confinement, assault, robbery and uttering threats.

They are the first minors in Canada to be charged with human trafficking.

Two of the defendants are facing more charges, including three counts of making child pornography for allegedly taking photos of the victims and sending them to johns, as well as kidnapping, invitation to sexual touching and sexual assault.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act prevents the identification of the accused and their alleged victims.

Crown lawyers Julien Lalande and Fara Rupert said their case will be built on the testimony of victims; some of the pimps; witnesses whom the girls talked to; as well as Facebook conversations, tweets and photos taken from the phone of one of the accused.

The Crown believes the accused befriended other girls, invited them to social events and then, through threats and violence, forced them to co-operate with their plans.

According to the Crown, four girls, three of them under the age of 18, were forced to perform sex acts, including oral and vaginal sex. Two other girls were beaten, stripped and photographed, the Crown alleges.

Into their world

The first witness, Det. Carolyn Botting, offered a glimpse into accused girls' world when she described the graffiti officers found when they searched one of their bedrooms.

- **Graffiti.** All over the walls were rap-inspired nicknames, declarations of love and scattered phrases, including "Sex is like chocolate," "We say FK the police in my house," "Money make me come" and "Jiiizzzz" — slang for ejaculate.

Magnotta hearing in final week

Daran Lin, father of victim Jun Lin, leaves the court Monday as the preliminary hearing of Luka Rocco Magnotta enters its final week in Montreal. Magnotta sat impassively as a friend of Jun Lin answered questions from Crown and defence lawyers. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alysena 28

Birth-control pills recalled for fear of extra placebos

The maker of the birth-control pill Alysena 28 has issued an urgent recall after it was discovered that one lot of the contraceptive may have been incorrectly packaged with only two weeks of drug-containing tablets instead of three.

Women taking the incorrectly packaged pill would not receive the proper amount of contraceptive, raising the possibility of an unplanned pregnancy.

In a recall notice distributed by Health Canada, Apotex Inc. said the product's 28-day blister packs should include 21 active birth-control pills plus seven placebo tablets that contain no drug.

Apotex said blister packs in the affected lot — LF01899A — may instead contain 14 placebo pills and 14 active contraceptive tablets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Science. Penis size really does matter, relatively

Science has spoken and, yes, gentlemen, size does matter.

A newly published study by a University of Ottawa researcher has concluded penis length exerts a measurable sway on females evaluating potential sexual partners.

"We found that flaccid penis size had a significant influence on male attractiveness," concludes the study that was published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

"Males with a larger penis were rated relatively more attractive."

Biologist Brian Mautz said he came to the study through curiosity over the evolution of male genitalia.

Mautz tried to mask his study's intent by introducing three variations on male appearance: body shape, height and penis size. Overall, body shape accounted for about 80 per cent of the variation in attractiveness scores, penis size about six per cent and height about five per cent.

"The finding suggests that selection on penis size is potentially as strong as selection on stature."

A researcher measures a model of a penis. A study has found length sways preference. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

That attraction, however, wasn't a simple formula of bigger is better. "Attractiveness increases rapidly until you reach around average for each of the three traits," said Mautz. "Then, although the attractiveness continues to increase, it doesn't increase as much." THE CANADIAN PRESS

False accusation. PETA apologizes to musher

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has apologized to an Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race musher whose dog died at a checkpoint.

PETA last month accused Alaskan musher Paige Drobny of leaving her dog unattended and said she should be criminally prosecuted.

Drobny dropped a dog at a checkpoint with race officials but snow from a storm covered the dog and it died of asphyxiation.

Drobny's attorney threatened to sue if PETA didn't retract its original accusation and KTUU-TV reports the organization did so Friday.

A PETA statement says Drobny couldn't have known a storm was heading to the checkpoint and that she's not culpable for the dog's death. The organization apologized for suggesting she was.

Drobny calls the apology "weak."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this March 5 photo, Paige Drobny tends to her dog team in the Athabaskan village of Nikolai, Alaska, during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. BILL ROTH/ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italian highway

Bandits steal millions from trucks

Bandits armed with Kalashnikovs stole an estimated $2.6 million Monday by setting a big-rig truck on fire to block a highway in northern Italy and then blowing open an armoured truck. An Italian news agency said they escaped after strewing nails on the road to slow police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Altercation with RCMP

Coroner rules death a homicide

The BC Coroners Service says the death of Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski in an altercation with RCMP at Vancouver's airport six years ago was a homicide — a coroners' term which does not imply blame. Dziekanski, who didn't speak English, became agitated after spending more than nine hours in the arrivals area and was confronted by four Mounties who stunned him several times with a Taser. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baby food

Calif. trial over lead warning begins

A trial began on Monday in a lawsuit filed by an environmental group against the nation's largest baby-food makers aimed at forcing the companies to alert consumers that some products contain low amounts of lead. The trial will help determine if the products must carry warning labels in California.

Gerber Products Co., Del Monte Foods, Beech-Nut Nutrition Corp., and others are selling products containing lead at levels that require warnings, the suit asserts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sticky fingers

Thieves steal 5 tons of Nutella

Police said Monday culprits made off with 5.5 tons of Nutella from a parked trailer in Germany over the weekend. The gooey loot is worth an estimated $21,000. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Poland. Jewish youths honour Holocaust victims

Thousands of young people from Israel and other countries marched in silence Monday at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the former Nazi death camp in Poland, to pay homage to six million Jews killed during the Holocaust. They walked between the two main sections of the complex, Auschwitz and Birkenau. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Youths march to honour the dead.
ALIK KEPLICZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ireland. Inquest opens into fatal abortion refusal

The widower of an Indian woman who died in an Irish hospital after being denied an abortion has told a coroner's inquest that a doctor denied her a termination on the grounds that "Ireland is a Catholic country."

Praveen Halappanavar made a lengthy statement Monday at the start of an investigation into why his 31-year-old wife, Savita, died at University Galway Hospital last October.

The hospital has already apologized. The inquest seeks to determine whether Halappanavar died because her miscarrying fetus was not aborted despite severe pain.

Abortion remains outlawed in Ireland except in life-threatening cases.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Margaret Thatcher and Pierre Trudeau are shown in Australia in this Oct. 4, 1981, photo. Thatcher died of a stroke on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Canadians remember the Iron Lady

Dead at 87. Political patrons and opponents reflect on Britain's polarizing PM

A giant, an inspiration and an Iron Lady who rejuvenated conservative politics: that's how Margaret Thatcher, who died Monday of a stroke at age 87, was remembered Monday by Canadian politicians as they weighed in on the death of an influential British leader.

"I think if you look at the sweep of her life, what she did — not just in Britain, but what she did on the world stage — really laid the groundwork for the freedom and the prosperity and opportunity that so many people around the world enjoy today," Prime Minister Stephen Harper told a news conference.

Liberal Bob Rae, while disowning Thatcher's politics, echoed that sentiment.

"Mrs. Thatcher served as British prime minister for more than a decade and in many ways defined conservative politics of her time," Rae said.

While the Conservative leader was the odd woman out on the right in the international scene when she came to power in 1979, she was soon joined by ideological cousins, including Ronald Reagan in Washington and Brian Mulroney in Ottawa.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 things about Maggie

1 She wasn't called The Iron Lady for nothing. Shaped by a hard-line political and economic stance, Thatcher shut down national coal mines, slashed social spending, refused to recognize Northern Irish political prisoners and introduced a "poll tax."

2 Thatcher, when elected in 1979, became Britain's first and so far only female prime minister, and the West's first female head of government. Her political dominance and leadership helped her in three consecutive terms, and inspired women worldwide to break the glass ceiling of male-dominated politics.

3 With her fondness for the private sector, deregulation and big missiles, Maggie embodied the zeitgeist of the 1980s and she was loved for it. The 1982 Falklands War boosted her popularity, while she and Ronald Reagan formed a power couple in taking down the communist bloc.

4 The tireless Thatcher famously said while in power she could get by on just four hours a night. She joins the genetically blessed "Sleepless Elite," a band of top historical figures and leaders (Napoleon, Da Vinci, Churchill and Florence Nightingale) who needed five hours or less of shut-eye.

5 Her sense of style was as powerful as her politics. Sporting a helmet of deep strawberry hair, broad Royal blue skirt suits, and the famous handbag, Thatcher pioneered the "I'm shoulder to shoulder with men" look.

Brazil

Officers on trial for 1992 prison riot massacre

Trial began on Monday for 26 Brazilian military police officers, some of them still on active duty, who are facing murder charges in the deaths of inmates in the infamous 1992 massacre at Sao Paulo's Carandiru prison, which left 111 inmates dead.

In total, 79 officers are to be tried in connection with the massacre following hours of rioting at the overcrowded facility.

Many critics see the "Carandiru massacre" as a symbol of police brutality and impunity. Many of the officers involved in the killings were promoted, and more than two decades on, only a single officer had been tried.

In 2001, Col. Ubiratan Guimaraes, was sentenced to 632 years in prison. But a state appeals court overturned the conviction in 2006 based on arguments that he was only following orders. Guimaraes was found dead in his Sao Paulo apartment seven months later with a gunshot wound to the chest.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drug smuggling

British woman facing death sentence in Bali

An Indonesian court upheld a death sentence for a British woman convicted of smuggling $2.5 million US worth of cocaine onto the resort island of Bali, a court official said Monday.

The Bali High Court rejected an appeal from Lindsay June Sandiford, 56, who was convicted in January by a district court and sentenced to face a firing squad.

During the trial, Sandiford said she was forced to carry the drugs stuffed inside the lining of her luggage by a gang that threatened to hurt her children. Prosecutors had sought 15 years in prison for Sandiford, but the court surprised many by issuing a death sentence.

Four other defendants — three Britons and an Indian — connected to the case were sentenced to jail terms ranging from one to six years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gun control advocates show their love for guns

The message. Need to reassure Americans that nobody is going to take away the guns they bought legally

The White House released this photo of U.S. President Barack Obama shooting clay targets at Camp David, Md., last August to silence skeptics of his claim that he has actually shot a gun. THE WHITE HOUSE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Lobbying for gun control in the United States often means proving how much you like firearms.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, whose state recently passed some of the strictest gun control measures in the country, often reminds people he is a hunter. Former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, who founded a gun control advocacy group after surviving a gunshot wound to the head, says she and her husband keep two guns in a safe at home. Vice-President Joe Biden boasts that he owns two shotguns.

The message is obvious: They, too, are a part of America's gun culture. In a country where at least a third of households have firearms, it's hard to impose stricter arms rules without support from gun owners.

Gun rights groups scoffed at what they called clumsy and obvious attempts to ingratiate themselves with firearm owners even while trying to limit their rights.

But gun control proponents have pressed on with such efforts ahead of a crucial Senate vote on legislation backed by the Obama administration in response to the Dec. 14 shooting of 20 children and six educators at a Connecticut school.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I don't have a huge problem with controlling large high-capacity or even high-calibre firearms because they were made for a reason, and we don't have that reason in our lives. I'm not walking around Afghanistan." Jaci Turner, who grew up around guns and owns shotguns, a rifle, a handgun and is acquiring a semi-automatic gun

Daring rescue

A trailer truck driver is rescued from the cab of her truck as it dangles from the Monitor-Merrimac Bridge Tunnel, by firefighter Scott Dye, Monday in Newport News, Va. Virginia State Police said the tractor-trailer went out of control on Interstate 664 and struck the bridge wall. The truck caught fire and the cab was hanging over the bridge that connects Suffolk and Newport News. State police say the driver suffered minor injuries. VIRGINIA STATE POLICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Federal policy enabled RBC outsourcing mess, says immigration expert

Foreign workers. Firms are responding to incentives Ottawa created, lawyer notes

Observers say the controversy over the Royal Bank of Canada's decision to outsource dozens of Toronto jobs is part of an alarming trend bolstered by government policy.

Immigration law expert Audrey Macklin says the government encourages companies to employ temporary foreign workers either directly or indirectly by processing their immigration documents faster and by allowing companies to pay those workers up to 15 per cent less than Canadians.

She says a company like RBC is simply responding to incentives the government has created.

Human Resources minister Diane Finley has said the Temporary Foreign Worker Program is only to fill "acute labour needs" when Canadians aren't available for the work required.

But NDP Leader Tom Mulcair says the Conservative government has done nothing to stop a situation like RBC's, which he says is depriving Canadians of their livelihoods.

RBC has repeatedly said it did not hire foreign workers to take over the job functions of current employees, but said it used the services of outside companies to improve "operational effectiveness."

Many Canadians have expressed outrage and even threatened to close their accounts upon learning that Canada's largest bank had outsourced the jobs of 45 Toronto employees to an external supplier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Contractor investigated

- The federal government is investigating iGate, the contractor being used by RBC to outsource dozens of Toronto jobs.
- A spokeswoman for Human Resources Minister Diane Finley says the investigation is based on discrepancies between public statements by RBC and information previously provided to the government by iGate.
- To obtain permits for temporary foreign workers, companies need to show a Canadian cannot be found to do the work.

Putin just loves those topless trade missions

A topless demonstrator with messages written on her back walks toward Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, as he toured a trade fair in Hannover, Germany, with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Monday. The trip underlines Russia's interest in developing foreign trade, including further business ties with Germany. JOCHEN LUBKE/DPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canuck men going beyond black brogues

Now that they've nailed the skinny suit, Canadian men have started buying up fashionable shoes to match. Sales of men's footwear increased by 13 per cent in Canada in 2012, according to research from The NPD Group.

While women's shoes sales grew by three per cent in 2012, sales of footwear for men pulled overall growth in the industry up by six per cent, to a total of $5.1 billion in sales.

"We're always quick to assume that women impel the success of the footwear market, but what we're experiencing instead in Canada is a complete takeover of the shoe closet by men's footwear," said Tracey Jarosz, executive director for Canada Fashion at The NPD Group.

Jarosz said all men's footwear categories grew in 2012 in Canada — athletic shoes, dress shoes, casual shoes, boots and sandals. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A Prada men's shoe. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

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(Ephesians 3:12)
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Market Minute

DOLLAR 98.30¢ (-0.09¢)

Natural gas: $4.09 US (-3¢)
Dow Jones: 14,613.48 (+48.23)

TSX 12,344.56 (+12.71)

OIL $93.36 US (+66¢)

GOLD $1,572.50 US (-$3.40)

One-day event

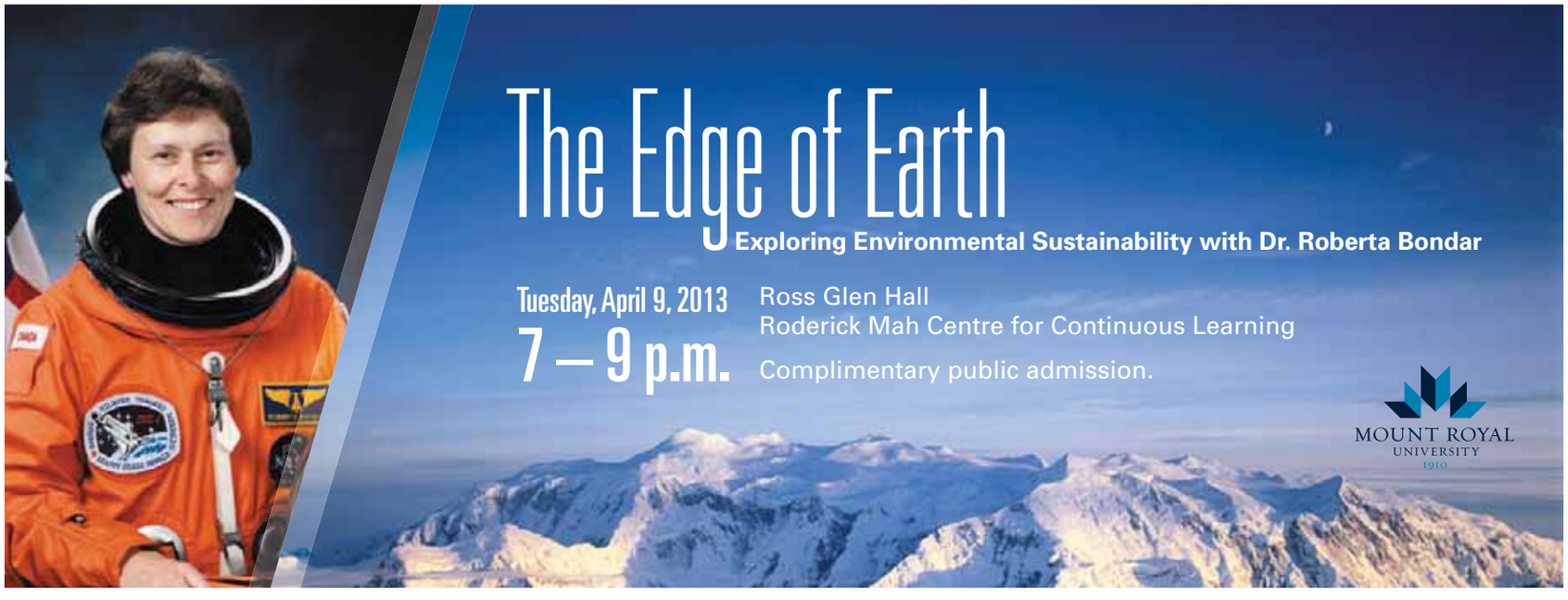
McDonald's to stage hiring blitz

McDonald's will hire more than 6,000 people on Thursday. Job seekers can apply in person at their local McDonald's, or through worksforme.ca. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nuclear accidents

Proposed liability limits not enough, Greenpeace says

Newly released government documents suggest Ottawa wants nuclear operators to be on the hook for more than $650 million in damages in case of an accident. But Greenpeace Canada says the documents also suggest Ottawa is talking only to the nuclear industry as it redefines its nuclear liability regime. Greenpeace is urging Canada to move to unlimited liability, arguing taxpayers shouldn't have to foot the bill for industrial activity. THE CANADIAN PRESS



SNAP, SEND, SEE IT DISAPPEAR

SHE SAYS

Jessica Napier
metronews.ca

"I'm not using it for sexting!" I exclaimed as I snatched my iPhone back from my friend whose eyebrows were raised disbelievingly. I had just received a slew of notifications from Snapchat and felt the need to defend my decision to download an app known for promiscuous photo exchanges.

If you're not in high school, there's about an 80 per cent chance you've never even heard of Snapchat, so allow me to fill you in. The decidedly simple app allows users to transmit photos and videos that expire after a prescribed amount of time: between one and 10 seconds. Once a message has been viewed, it disappears from the user's phone and Snapchat's own company servers. The free app is a relatively inane form of time-wasting, but it's also strangely addictive.

Creators Evan Spiegel and Bobby Murphy originally designed the app as part of a class project at Stanford University. When presenting their idea, a venture capitalist sitting in on the class told Spiegel that the app could be interesting if he made the photos permanent. The tech-loving wunderkind and his partner ignored this advice and launched the self-destructing messaging service to the public in September 2011.

Available on iPhone and Android devices, the free app currently has more active users than Instagram, but isn't without its critics. Many have dismissed it as a way for bored teenagers to exchange risqué messages without getting caught by their parents. But while it's likely that many are using the service to transmit content of the not-so-clothed variety, it's important to note that the app is gaining traction and developing a substantial user base beyond the horny coed demographic. More than 100 million images and videos are sent through Snapchat every day and the app is generating a lot of buzz — although no actual revenue as of yet.

As we become increasingly obsessed with documenting and cataloguing our lives on social media, I can see the appeal behind a communication tool that operates on impermanence.

While most social-networking platforms are highly self-conscious — requiring users to create their own carefully curated persona to package and present to their friends and fans — Snapchat facilitates a more spontaneous and candid form of communication.

Its growing popularity is a reactionary response to the highly processed and everlasting content on other social media platforms. Not everything we say and do should stick around forever and it's this desire for impermanent forms of expression that Spiegel and Murphy were able to tap into. Despite the opposition, the young developers — who have since received nearly $14 million in venture funding — knew that the disappearing nature of the messaging service would be its ultimate appeal. So even though it might be known for facilitating evidence-free sexting, the app also offers a new way for all of us to avoid being haunted by a "digital trail" and communicate in a more uninhibited manner.

Follow Jessica Napier on Twitter @MetroSheSays

ZOOM

Drones used to protect rhinos

ANUPAM NATH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cameras help spot poachers in Indian national park

Wildlife authorities used drones on Monday for aerial surveillance of a sprawling natural game park in northeastern India to protect the one-horned rhinoceros from armed poachers.

Security officers conducted flights of the unmanned aircraft over the Kaziranga National Park. The drones will be flown at regular intervals to prevent rampant poaching in the park located in the remote Indian state of Assam.

The drones are equipped with cameras and will be monitored by security guards, who find it difficult to guard the 480-square kilometre reserve. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Park has largest number of one-horned rhinos in the world

- Poachers armed with automatic rifles killed 22 rhinos last year in the park, but have killed 16 rhinos already this year.
- Rhino horn is in great demand in China and Southeast Asia, where it is believed to have medicinal properties.
- In recent weeks, wildlife authorities in Assam have deployed 300 armed guards to protect the rhinos in Kaziranga, but they have been no match for organized gangs of poachers who have been managing to strike at the rhinos with increasing regularity.

New on RMR: I'm wearing pink to protest bullying

RICK MERCER
Guest columnist
readers@metronews.ca

Tomorrow I will wear pink. Full disclosure: I don't usually wear pink. I'm a black-and-white guy, and even blue jeans are a stretch. That said, I am happy to make the exception if it means stating loud and clear that bullying, discrimination, homophobia and transphobia in schools and communities across Canada must end.

We all know that bullying can be fatal.

We've heard the tragic tales of kids like Jamie Hubley and Amanda Todd, who ended their lives after being subjected to bullying at school. We hate to admit it but we know that there are more kids out there today who are suffering in silence.

The Day of Pink is an important solution to this problem not only because it helps to raise awareness but because of where the idea originally came from.

When students in Nova Scotia saw a younger student being harassed because he was wearing pink, they decided to do something. They took it upon themselves to buy every pink shirt in town and they did it on their own dime. The next day they handed these shirts out at school. Suddenly the bullies who were making this young man's life miserable were surrounded by students in pink. They learned in no uncertain terms that the vast majority of kids were not going to accept their behaviour. Message sent. To me, the kindness, courage, compassion and creativity exhibited by this gesture is what being Canadian is all about.

Those kids stood up for someone who wasn't in a position to stand up for himself. They could not have any idea what they started. This past year, 8.1 million kids around the world wore pink on the International Day of Pink to send the same message. The Day of Pink, like the zipper, is a Canadian success story. Someone should get these kids the Order of Canada.

Kudos to Jer's Vision, an incredible organization of young people, for working so hard to make the Day of Pink an international success story. I'm proud to support them and I look to them for solutions.

They are young, I am not, and they know what's going on in Canadian schools. Thankfully, I don't. I will take their lead. They want me to wear pink? I'm in.

So please, folks, wear pink tomorrow or, at the very least, throw a red sock in your white laundry tonight.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: calgaryletters@metronews.ca

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DVD reviews

Hyde Park on Hudson

Director. Roger Michell

Stars. Bill Murray, Laura Linney, Olivia Williams

Bill Murray makes a charming Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Laura Linney a stoic mistress Daisy in Hyde Park on Hudson, a film split between history, gossip and whimsy. But they've both got their work cut out for them with the wafer-thin screenplay, which Richard Nelson adapted from his BBC radio play of the same name. Titled for FDR's upstate New York retreat, where America's longest-serving president took refuge — and rumoured sexual liaisons — as the Second World War threatened, Roger Michell's film struggles for definition as either daffy comedy or insider's view of history. Samuel West and Olivia Colman steal scenes as visiting King George VI and wife Queen Elizabeth (the future Queen Mum), befuddled by hot dogs and emboldened by booze during their 1939 visit with FDR, but The King's Speech 2 this isn't.

Rob Thomas and Kristen Bell are getting to work on the new Veronica Mars movie. GETTY IMAGES

How to shoot for Mars with $2 million

Kickstart cred.
Veronica Mars creator Rob Thomas lets Metro in on some of the details about the upcoming fan-funded film

MICHELLE CASTILLO
Metro World News in New York

Rob Thomas gave Metro World News some details about the upcoming Veronica Mars movie — which is scheduled for release in 2014 — and details about how the project came to be.

The initial goal of $2 million seems small for a movie. Would it even be possible to make a Veronica Mars film with that budget?
When Kristen and I went into it, we sort of agreed that we would make the, she called it the "No fancy trailers" budget. She and her husband had just done that movie, Hit and Run, and I think they made it for around $2 million. So that was part of the ethos of it.

Who is returning (besides Bell and Dohring)? Aren't they a little too old for high school or even college?
We're in negotiations with the other cast members, and I've spoken to all the other cast members. Absolutely people want to do it, and I'm building it around the 10-year high school reunion, so I'm planning on using the bulk of them but deals still have to be made.

(Kristen) is 28 as we pick up the movie. She has just got out of law school at Columbia and starting to interview for jobs in New York law firms.

Why do you think fans have responded to Veronica Mars so much?
The key to achieving the cult status is being able to hang on for a while. The fact that we started on UPN, and we were allowed to survive some not terrific numbers for a while was part of the equation because having done ABC, we'd only have been on for two episodes and we would never have been allowed to grow into a cult status.

Seinfeld started out with an order of six on a death night, and they allowed that to build. It went beyond cult status. I think being somewhere where no one noticed, where you weren't expected to do good numbers or great numbers was key, and I think the character herself, Veronica, was a great fit for UPN.

When I first went in there to have a meeting, they told me the direction they wanted to take the network. They said, "We think we're going to skew young and female, and we're looking for female empowerment shows."

I had written Veronica Mars a year before on spec. I had just written it for myself because it was an idea I was inspired by. I told them, "Well, I have a script in a drawer at home about a very empowered teenage girl."

I taught high school, in particular I taught freshman English. I was the adviser of the yearbook. I hung out with a lot of teenage girls. I had a lot of teenage girls' voices in my head. As a yearbook adviser, that's primarily who you're there after school with on worknights with. I think girls at that age are some of the most self-conscious people on the planet.

One of the things I thought about Veronica Mars is that if she had some superhero power it's that she's beyond self-consciousness — that her life had taken her down such a rocky road, and she'd come out the other side and it was a pretty tough girl. She could say those things that I think teenage girls often wished they could say or (were) bold enough to say in a make no apologies sort of way, and I think that connected with a UPN audience.

What about your other series Party Down? Will you be trying Kickstarter with that?
We're down a path with that. We hope that will become a movie as well. We're not going the Kickstarter route. We're writing a script for an independent production company that we really respect. We hope for good news on that in the next year or so.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Jay-Z and Beyoncé in hot water over their Havana nights

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Jay-Z and Beyoncé Knowles may be in trouble for their lavish fifth wedding anniversary trip to Cuba last week, as it's raising eyebrows with a few Florida politicians, according to Reuters. "Despite the clear prohibition against tourism in Cuba (for U.S. citizens), numerous press reports described the couple's trip as tourism, and the Castro regime touted it as such in its propaganda," Florida Representatives Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Mara Dias-Balart say in a letter to the director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control. "We represent a community of many who have been deeply and personally harmed by the Castro regime's atrocities, including former political prisoners and families of murdered innocents."

A rep for Jay-Z and Beyoncé was unavailable for comment.

There is no word on how Jay-Z and Beyoncé were allowed to enter the country (travel for American citizens is very strict). My working theory? They are secretly Canadian.

Lindsay Lohan ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Fest a 'recipe for disaster' for Lohan: Friend

Lindsay Lohan infamously scheduled her upcoming 90-day rehab stint to start next month so that she can hit up the Coachella music festival starting this weekend, but at least one friend thinks she should skip it.

"I fear for her life if she goes to the festival," Danish promoter Claus Hjelmbak tells Radar Online. "Lindsay is in a very dark place right now, and I'm absolutely scared for her life. Coachella is the last place she needs to be. For someone struggling with addiction, like Lindsay, the amount of drugs and alcohol at Coachella is just a recipe for disaster waiting to happen."

The music festival takes place over two weekends in the desert near Palm Springs, with a packed schedule of famous bands set to perform, including the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Moby and the Airborne Toxic Event.

Twitter

@ElizabethBanks
RIP Margaret Thatcher. A role model for women & young girls across the world. Also, my high school Halloween costume.

@samantharonson
Regardless of her politics — I grew up believing that I could be anything I wanted to be, even Prime Minister — lucky 4 you all I didn't.

@pattonoswalt
"Karen Silkwood, Julia Child, and now Margaret Thatcher. The Streep Curse, man" -- world's dumbest conspiracy theorist

Lambert splits from Finnish boyfriend

American Idol vet Adam Lambert is single again, having split up with boyfriend and Finnish Big Brother winner Sauli Koskinen, Lambert tells the South Florida Gay News. "It's been kind of on its way out in the last couple of months," Lambert says. "Sauli and I remain really good friends, and I know it's a cliché to say, but it's totally true," he adds.

Adam Lambert

Bynes twirls in New York

Amanda Bynes' recent campaign of bizarre behaviour during her stay in New York is continuing unabated, with the former Nickelodeon star reportedly shocking attendees at a gymnastic class according to Page Six. "She immediately started acting strangely," a source says. "She lined up with the other gymnasts, and each took their turn to perform a roll. But Amanda just walked out on the mat, was spinning around in circles and mumbling to herself."

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LIFE 3

How Beyoncé bid bye bye to her baby Blue weight

Fitness. Squats, shakes and nerves of steel — we look back on how the bootylicious singer got back into shape after giving birth to her daughter

ROMINA McGUINNESS
life@metronews.ca

We find out how she was sure to squeeze into her (super tight) stage clothes so quickly.

Beyoncé got back to her fighting weight for the upcoming world tour and her return to the world's stage. GETTY IMAGES

Pack it on, get it off

Beyoncé gained a total of 57 pounds throughout her pregnancy.

But with her first show scheduled just three short months after having her baby, she had to lose it all — and fast.

At the time, she was quoted as saying, "I'm definitely softer, but I feel my body bouncing back."

It did.

And it probably wasn't much fun.

"Y'all have no idea how hard I worked! I had to lose 60 pounds. They had me on that treadmill. I ate lettuce!" she confessed to her fans.

But her trainer, Marco Borges, explained how her slimmed-down frame was simply the result of proper nutrition, regular workouts and breastfeeding.

One year on, she's maintained a stable weight.

Proper nutrition — eat lean, eat green and stick to your plan

After initially shedding the extra pounds by sticking to a diet of vegetables, fruit, nuts, seeds, grains and clean proteins, Life & Style reported that in order to make sure the weight didn't creep back on, Beyoncé has one vegan meal a day.

The eating plan was recommended by Borges, who believes that a meat and dairy-free meal is a great way to get, "people to eat more greens than they normally would."

And whenever she craves a crunchy snack, she ditches the chips and reaches out for something healthy like edamame beans, green apples or cucumbers sprinkled with vinegar, cayenne pepper and lemon.

Fierce discipline, explosive workouts

Fitting into tiny corsets and exposing your thighs in fishnet tights is a struggle for most women.

Yes, even Beyoncé. Opening up to Shape Magazine just weeks before the start of her world tour, the singer revealed how difficult keeping in shape can be.

"I'm not a person that is naturally very thin. I am a person that has to work at keeping my body in shape," she said.

But how does she manage to do that?

It's thanks to her drive, determination and dedication, Borges said, also to Shape.

"We do a combination of cardio, calisthenics, resistance exercises and yoga. Whether she's doing lunges, plies, reverse lunges or squats, she does 100 repetitions. When you do those sets, it is really an extension of your cardio, so you can sculpt muscles while building endurance. Beyoncé is really hardcore. She trains for 60 to 90 minutes, four to five days a week."

She sweat and she ate lettuce. But never once did she give up her boobs, her hips or her bum in favour of skin and bone.

She's a healthy, happy working mama.

Quote

"I'm not a person that is naturally very thin. I am a person that has to work at keeping my body in shape"

Beyoncé
Talking about how she got back into shape.

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Roasted peppers, pine nuts, goat cheese make tasty trio

This recipes serves six. LORELLA VANETTI, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

I can never make enough of this simple salad.

In restaurants, roasted peppers are often marinated in oil, which adds calories and fat. Here I use only one tablespoon of olive oil — and the results are outstanding.

Red, yellow, and orange bell peppers contain an abundance of beta carotene and antioxidants, which help in the fight against cancer.

Nutritional info

Per serving: 88 calories; 2.7 g protein; 4.9 g fat; 1.3 g saturated fat; 8.3 carbohydrates; 20 mg sodium; 2.2 mg cholesterol; 2.5 fibre

Ingredients

- 6 bell peppers of various colours, roasted
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 cup crumbled goat cheese
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh basil or parsley
- 2 tbsp pine nuts, toasted

1. Slice roasted peppers in thick slices; arrange on platter.

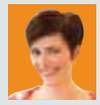
2. Whisk oil and vinegar together in small bowl. Drizzle mixture over peppers.

3. Sprinkle peppers with crumbled goat cheese, basil (or fresh parley) and toasted pine nuts.

ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Health Solutions

Rhubarb rights and wrongs



NUTRI-BITES
Theresa Albert
DHN, RNCP
myfriendinfood.com

Rosy red is the colour of spring; pick rhubarb while the cardinals sing.

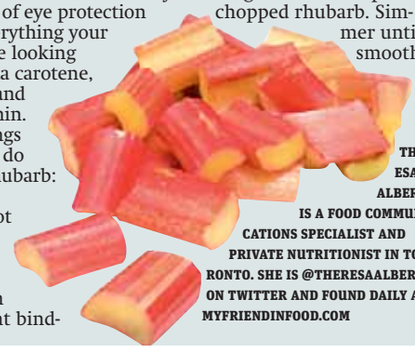
Rhubarb is a wild vegetable that we treat culinarily as a fruit.

Not only is it loaded with B vitamins, if you go for the redder the stalks, there is more skin saving Vitamin A in your pie. To boot, this delicious delivery system of eye protection has everything your eyes are looking for: beta carotene, lutein and zeaxathin.

Things NOT to do with rhubarb:

- Do not eat the leaves. They contain nutrient binding oxalic acid as well as poisonous glycosides.
- Do not ruin the low cal benefits by cooking with too much sugar; keep it tart.
- Do not store raw stalks at room temperature. Either store in fridge in plastic or chop and freeze immediately.

Here is the best cooking method to make a spread or pancake topping: Bring 1/4 cup orange juice to a boil; add 2 tablespoons of maple syrup, 1 tablespoon of sugar. Add 1.5 cups chopped rhubarb. Simmer until smooth.



THERESA ALBERT IS A FOOD COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST AND PRIVATE NUTRITIONIST IN TORONTO. SHE IS @THERESAALBERT ON TWITTER AND FOUND DAILY AT MYFRIENDINFOOD.COM

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6. Helps the body to metabolize carbohydrates, fat and protein.
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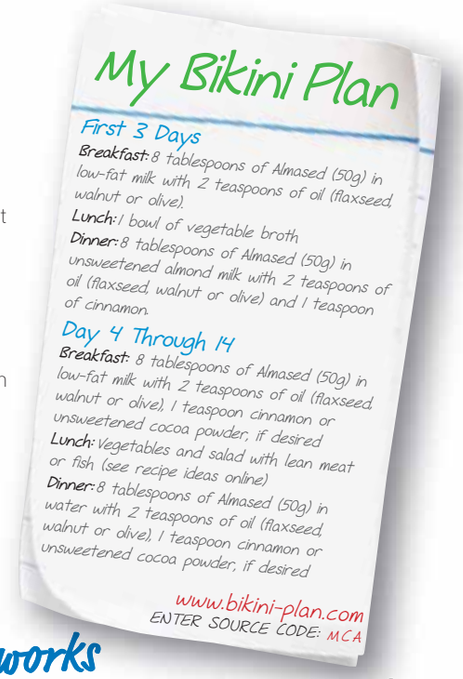
My Bikini Plan
First 3 Days
Breakfast: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in low-fat milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive).
Lunch: 1 bowl of vegetable broth
Dinner: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in unsweetened almond milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive) and 1 teaspoon of cinnamon.
Day 4 Through 14
Breakfast: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in low-fat milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive), 1 teaspoon cinnamon or unsweetened cocoa powder, if desired
Lunch: Vegetables and salad with lean meat or fish (see recipe ideas online)
Dinner: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in water with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive), 1 teaspoon cinnamon or unsweetened cocoa powder, if desired
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Nasty T5 slip surprise? Don't panic

YOUR MONEY
Alison Griffiths
money@metronews.ca

A reader who owned 200 Kraft Foods shares received a nasty surprise when a T5 slip arrived showing nearly $3,000 in U.S. dividend income.

Kraft Foods Group split into Kraft Foods and Mondelez International in October, 2012. Every 100 shares of Kraft turned into 100 of Mondelez and roughly 33 of Kraft. The Kraft shares are deemed to be a foreign dividend by the Canada Revenue Agency and taxed as ordinary income.

If you are in this situation, don't panic about suddenly having more income than expected.

"An election can be made under Section 86.1 of the Income Tax Act to exclude the deemed dividend from income," notes Winnipeg-based tax expert and author, Evelyn Jacks. "This election must be made in writing and sent to CRA.

"Indicate the number and cost base for the original Kraft Foods Inc. shares; and the shares received as a result of the spin-off. If you make the election to exclude the dividends, then the cost base of the post spin-off shares is based on the cost base of the original Kraft Foods Inc. shares. The cost base is allocated between the new shares according to the fair market value immediately after the spin-off." (Sign up for Jacks' free tax newsletter knowledgebureau.com)

So far so good, but now we must establish a cost base for the shares to report when and if they are sold.

Jacks comes to the rescue with a little math. Let's say the shares were purchased for $20, $4,000 in total for this reader. This is called the Average Cost Base, ACB. The Mondelez shares were trading at $28 and the Kraft shares at $45.42 per share, post spin-off. Therefore the 200 Mondelez shares were worth $5,600 and the 66 Kraft Foods Group shares came to $2,997.72 US.

Take that $4,000 ACB and allocate it like this:

Mondelez: $4,000 x $5,600 divided by ($5,600+$2,997.72) = $2,605.34

Kraft: $4,000 x $2,997.34 divided by ($5,600+$2,997.72) = $1,394.48.

Those are the new ACBs for the shares. If you sell half the Mondelez and half the Kraft in the future, adjust the cost base accordingly to report the capital gain or loss on your taxes. Stick the formula, and a few notes, in your investment file so you can reconstruct what you've done down the road. Now go take a headache remedy.

Contact Alison at griffiths.alison@gmail.com or alisongriffiths.ca

Biz. Five warning signs of card payment fraud

As more Canadian businesses begin to offer online shopping and online and mobile sales continue to grow, security experts point out that a few bad apples are also using the popularity of online shopping to scam merchants with stolen payment card information.

"The good news is business owners and their employees can play a crucial role in the fight against fraud and they already have the tools to recognize and stop online, mobile or phone purchases carried out with stolen card data," says Gord Jamieson, head of security for Visa Canada.

Jamieson notes that business owners can be at risk when a payment card is not physically present.

To help identify this type of fraud before it occurs, he recommends merchants watch for the following five warning signs when carrying out transactions without the payment card:

- **Multiple purchases made with different cards, shipped to a single address**

This can indicate a batch of stolen payment card account numbers.

- **Multiple high value transactions made on the same card over a very short period of time**

This can indicate an attempt to "run the card" until the account is closed.

- **Multiple purchases made on a card with a single billing address, shipped to many different addresses**

This may indicate organized criminal activity.

- **Online transactions with multiple cards but a single IP address**

This may indicate a batch of stolen cards being run from the same computer.

- **Multiple transactions in close succession with very similar account numbers**

This may indicate account numbers that have been generated using illegal software.

According to Jamieson, merchants or employees who come across any of these warning signs should request additional information from the cardholder.

"There are many tools available to help merchants avoid fraud, like the address verification service, the "three digit code" and a service called Verified by Visa," Jamieson said. He also recommends reporting the suspicious activity to their payment service provider as soon as possible.

Are you a business owner? Do your part to fight fraud! ISTOCK IMAGES

NEWS CANADA

Resistance to change: Late night shows still shunning women, minority hosts

TV. As Jay Leno hands off to Jimmy Fallon, lack of diversity still there on late night

Jay Leno, host of The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, left, and Jimmy Fallon, host of Late Night with Jimmy Fallon.
NBC/ANDREW ECCLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The role of female talk show hosts in late-night TV broadcast network history, all 50-plus years of it, can be summed up in two words: Joan Rivers. It takes just another two — Arsenio Hall — to do the same for minorities.

There's no indication that's going to change in the latest round of musical chairs involving Tonight and Late Night. All the NBC, ABC and CBS showcase jobs at 11:30 p.m. eastern and later appear likely to remain securely in white men's hands.

Jay Leno is handing off to Jimmy Fallon, with speculation tagging Seth Meyers as his likely successor. Meanwhile, David Letterman, Jimmy Kimmel, Craig Ferguson and Carson Daly are sitting pretty, without the faintest drumbeat of a pair of advancing high heels to signal a threat.

There have been alternatives bandied about — Chelsea Handler, black comedian-writer Aisha Tyler — but no hints they or others are getting traction.

"In real life it seems to me that women have definitely shown themselves to be able to carry on a conversation," said Merrill Markoe, the Emmy-Award-winning writer who helped David Letterman create Late Night at NBC. "Women have exhibited an interest in talking for centuries. I'm not sure how it is that no one has seemed to notice."

Women and minorities have conquered other traditionally white male-dominated arenas, on and off TV — think anchorwoman Diane Sawyer, President Barack Obama — but in late-night even daring cable is content with the homogenized likes of Conan O'Brien, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert, with such occasional dashes as E!'s Handler, BET's Mo'Nique and TBS' now-gone George Lopez thrown in.

Rivers, who became host of Fox's The Late Show in 1986 after filling in as the sole regular guest host on Johnny Carson's Tonight, calls the lack of female hosts "beyond" frustrating.

Blame the broadcast industry's resistance toward change and the risk of failure, she said: "Everybody is running so scared, and has always run scared."

And executives can find reasons, or excuses, for keeping the status quo.

"They had surveys at NBC, and the surveys were that women would rather watch a man at night, which is what they're always throwing up in your face," Rivers said.

That's an argument that's still made, privately, in the industry: Women want to hear their pre-bedtime monologue jokes from a man, while Oprah Winfrey, Ellen DeGeneres and Katie Couric are welcome in daytime.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Are healthy couples happier couples?

NATALIE LAVOY-FURTADO
2life.io

Couples who sweat together stay together. ISTOCK IMAGES

Getting in shape isn't always easy, but it helps when you have constant motivation from your partner.

"My boyfriend was a huge help in terms of introducing me to a fit lifestyle and keeping me motivated," says Bianca Del Bois of Burlington, Ont., who used to live an unhealthy lifestyle but is now a healthy fitness guru.

For most couples, it really helps if both parties are into a healthier lifestyle. "We do the same routines together, jog together and do some creative outdoor workouts," says Del Bois. Working out with your partner can be fun, but are healthier couples really happier couples?

"Without sounding biased, yes!" says Del Bois. "I've never been happier or healthier in a relationship before. We really motivate each other to reach our full potential."

Now training to compete for two bikini competitions in May and June, Del Bois is always changing her diet and workout to keep it fresh.

It sounds easy but it has been hard work.

She finds that the improvements in her lifestyle have made this all worth it. "Physically I've increased stamina during cardio sessions, much more muscle definition and toning and an overall healthy appearance," says Del Bois.

Now people are so amazed by her hard work transformation that they go to her for help to achieve their fitness goals, so what advice does she have for us?

"The first steps to getting in shape would be to adjust your eating habits and just start with 30 to 45 minutes of physical activity a day, whether it's cardio, weight training, or even a Zumba class."

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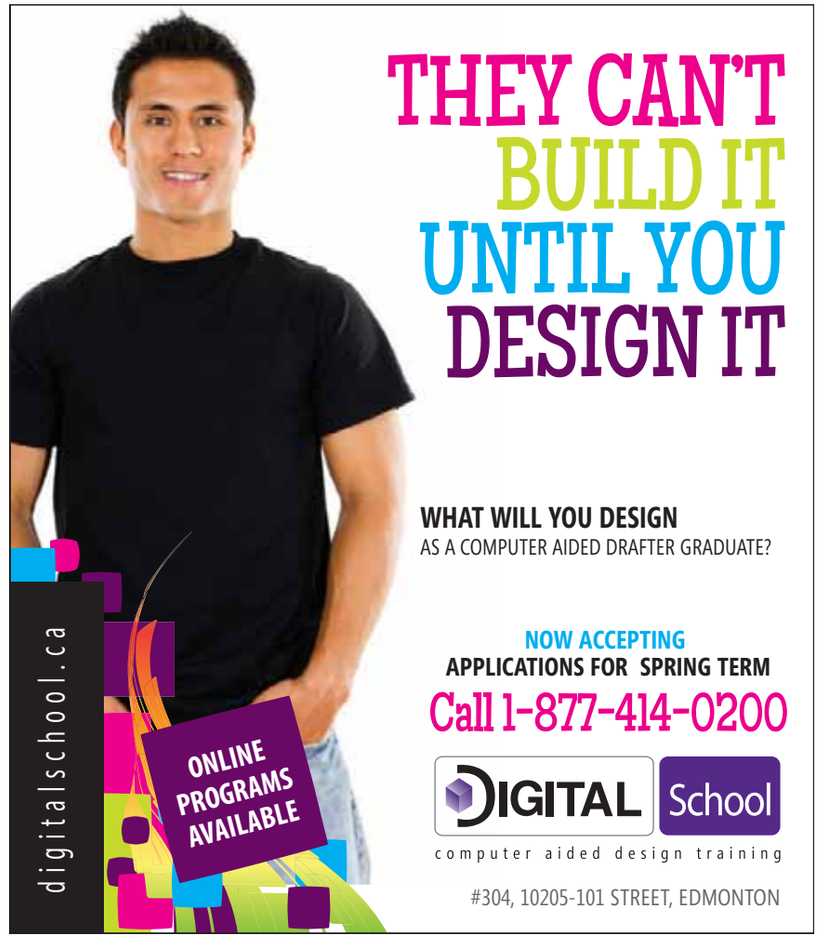

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Olympics

PM pleads with NHL to let its stars play in Sochi

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is urging NHL commissioner Gary Bettman to let the league's stars play in the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Harper says he speaks for all Canadians who want to see the country's top players don the Maple Leaf at the Winter Games.

NHL players have been part of the Olympics since 1998 in Nagano, Japan.

The league is mulling whether it is worth shutting down its season for a few weeks to let its players take part in the 2014 Games. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

NHL

Crosby not yet ready for return

Lacing on hockey skates is going to have to wait. At this point, Sidney Crosby would settle for a meal that didn't require a straw.

The Pittsburgh Penguins star and his surgically repaired mouth remain on a liquid diet as he recovers from a broken jaw sustained in a win over the New York Islanders on March 30. The NHL's leading scorer remains sidelined indefinitely and has not been cleared to return to practice.

Crosby expects to meet with doctors later this week. "We'll see how it heals and it will be a process here the next little bit but I'm not too worried about the teeth," he said. "I'm worried about making sure I'm healed and hopefully that's sooner rather than later."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Calgary Flames centre Roman Horak, left, knocks over Colorado Avalanche left-winger Gabriel Landeskog on Monday in Denver. CHRIS SCHNEIDER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flames burn their road losing streak

NHL. Cammalleri and MacDonald lead Calgary over Colorado for first win away from Saddledome in 14 tries

On Monday

3	1
Flames	Avalanche

Mike Cammalleri broke a second-period tie and Joey MacDonald stopped 39 shots, helping the Calgary Flames snap a 13-game road winless streak with a 3-1 victory over the slumping Colorado Avalanche on Monday night.

Roman Cervenka also scored and Alex Tanguay added a short-handed goal to wrap up the win for the Flames in a game that featured the bottom two teams in the NHL. Before Monday, Calgary's last victory away from home was Feb. 17 at Dallas.

Brad Malone scored his first NHL goal for the last-place Avalanche, who have dropped five straight games.

MacDonald came up big late in the third period, stopping a point-blank backhanded shot by Matt Duchene and weathering back-to-back hooking penalties on Cervenka in the final five minutes.

Tanguay gave the Flames some breathing room when he skated in all alone and beat Jean-Sebastien Giguere over his right shoulder. Down two goals and up a skater with two minutes remaining, the Avs pulled Giguere but couldn't score.

This is a season that's gone downhill for both Calgary and Colorado. They're now contending not for a playoff spot but for the first pick of the NHL draft this summer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

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Chinese teen Tianlang to get pro tutorial at Masters

Tiger Woods, left, chats with 14-year-old amateur Guan Tianlang during practice on Monday in Augusta, Ga. DARRON CUMMINGS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golf. 14-year-old turns heads upon historic arrival at Augusta

Guan Tianlang is in good company this week at Augusta National.

He played a practice round Monday with two-time Masters champion Ben Crenshaw, then headed out in the afternoon with Tiger Woods. He has a game lined up Tuesday with Tom Watson, an eight-time major champion. On Wednesday, he plans to play with Nick Faldo, winner of six majors.

Can't he play with someone his own age?

Not at this Masters.

Guan is the 14-year-old from China, the youngest to ever play in the Masters and the youngest at any major in 148 years. He qualified by winning the Asia Pacific Amateur Championship last fall in Thailand, and now gets a crack at the best in the game on one of the most famous courses in the world.

Nerves? So far, only a big smile.

"I'm really excited in the morning when I come out on the course and there's many people here," Guan said Monday, conducting his news conference in English with a Chinese translator at his side in case he needed help. He rarely did.

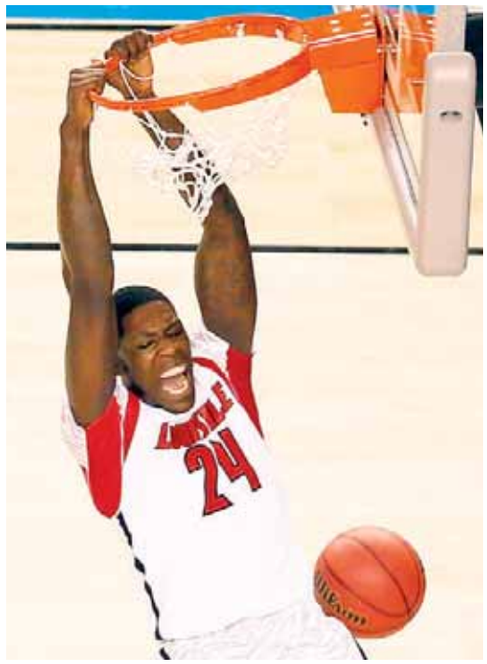
The kid has shown to be special in many ways.

He went wire-to-wire in the Asia Pacific amateur, and he wasn't even rattled as he calmly rapped in a five-foot par putt for the one-shot win on the final hole. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It's frightening to think that he was born after I won my first Masters."

Tiger Woods when asked about 14-year-old Guan Tianlang at Bay Hill two weeks ago.



Jammin' in Georgia

Montrezl Harrell of the Louisville Cardinals dunks an alley-oop pass in the first half of Monday's men's NCAA basketball championship game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. Louisville rallied from a 12-point deficit to beat the Michigan Wolverines 82-76. KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

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NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Miami	60	16	.789	—
x-New York	50	26	.658	10
y-Indiana	48	29	.623	12½
x-Brooklyn	44	32	.579	16
x-Chicago	42	34	.553	18
x-Atlanta	42	36	.538	19
x-Boston	40	37	.519	20½
x-Milwaukee	37	39	.487	23
Philadelphia	31	45	.408	29
Toronto	29	48	.377	31½
Washington	29	48	.377	31½
Detroit	26	52	.333	35
Cleveland	24	52	.316	36
Orlando	19	59	.244	42
Charlotte	18	59	.234	42½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-San Antonio	57	20	.740	—
x-Oklahoma City	56	21	.727	1
x-Denver	53	24	.688	4
y-L.A. Clippers	51	26	.662	6
x-Memphis	52	25	.675	5
Golden State	44	33	.571	13
Houston	43	34	.558	14
Utah	41	37	.526	16½
L.A. Lakers	40	37	.519	17
Dallas	38	39	.494	19
Portland	33	44	.429	24
Minnesota	29	47	.382	27½
New Orleans	27	50	.351	30
Sacramento	27	50	.351	30
Phoenix	23	54	.299	34

x — clinched playoff berth; z — clinched conference.

Tuesday's games
All Times Eastern
Cleveland at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Houston, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Utah, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NCAA

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Monday's result
Louisville 82 Michigan 76

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
d-Pittsburgh	39	29	10	0	0	127	95	58
d-Montreal	38	25	8	3	2	120	91	55
d-Washington	39	20	17	2	0	117	110	42
Boston	38	25	9	2	2	108	81	54
Toronto	39	22	13	0	4	121	109	48
Ottawa	38	19	13	2	4	94	85	44
NY Rangers	39	19	16	0	4	96	94	42
NY Islanders	39	19	16	3	1	113	119	42
New Jersey	39	15	14	3	7	92	106	40
Winnipeg	40	19	19	0	2	98	120	40
Buffalo	39	16	17	2	4	105	118	38
Philadelphia	38	17	18	1	2	106	118	37
Carolina	38	16	20	1	1	99	121	34
Tampa Bay	38	16	20	0	2	121	114	34
Florida	39	13	20	5	1	96	132	32

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
d-Chicago	38	29	5	0	4	128	83	62
d-Anaheim	39	26	8	2	3	121	98	57
d-Vancouver	38	21	11	1	5	103	95	48
Los Angeles	39	22	13	1	3	114	96	48
San Jose	38	20	11	3	4	98	94	47
Minnesota	38	22	14	1	1	103	97	46
St. Louis	37	21	14	1	1	106	98	44
Detroit	39	19	15	3	2	99	101	43
Phoenix	38	17	15	2	4	105	104	40
Dallas	38	18	17	2	1	104	117	39
Edmonton	38	16	15	4	3	100	106	39
Columbus	39	16	16	3	4	91	104	39
Nashville	40	15	17	2	6	96	109	38
Calgary	38	14	20	1	3	102	134	32
Colorado	39	12	22	4	1	90	124	29

Monday's results
Boston 6 Carolina 2
Toronto 4 NY Rangers 3
Calgary 3 Colorado 1
Phoenix at Vancouver
Edmonton at Anaheim

Tuesday's games
All Times Eastern
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.
Washington at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Buffalo at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
St. Louis at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	5	2	.714	—
Baltimore	3	4	.429	2
New York	3	4	.429	2
Tampa Bay	3	4	.429	2
Toronto	2	4	.333	2½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	4	2	.667	—
Kansas City	4	3	.571	½
Minnesota	4	3	.571	½
Detroit	3	3	.500	1
Cleveland	3	4	.429	1½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	5	2	.714	—
Texas	5	2	.714	—
Seattle	3	4	.429	2
Los Angeles	2	4	.333	2½
Houston	1	5	.167	3½

Monday's results
Boston 3 Baltimore 1
N.Y. Yankees 11 Cleveland 6
Kansas City 3 Minnesota 1
Texas 5 Tampa Bay 4
Houston at Seattle

TUESDAY'S GAMES — All Times Eastern
Toronto (Morrow 0-0) at Detroit (Sanchez 0-0), 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 1-0) at Cleveland (Carrasco 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Hernandez 0-1) at Texas (Tepesch 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Pelfrey 1-0) at Kansas City (Guthrie 1-0), 8:10 p.m.
Oakland (Parker 0-1) at L.A. Angels (Wilson 0-0), 10:05 p.m.
Houston (Bedard 0-0) at Seattle (Maurer 0-1), 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Monday's results
Milwaukee 7 Chicago Cubs 4
Cincinnati 13 St. Louis 4
N.Y. Mets 7 Philadelphia 2
Atlanta 2 Miami 0
Pittsburgh at Arizona
Colorado at San Francisco.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Your mind is full of brilliant ideas. What are you going to do with them? Don't just let them sit there doing nothing. Good ideas are like fertilizer, they need to be spread around so they can help people grow.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
A new opportunity is about to come your way. Make sure you use it wisely. Yes, you will have to adapt to events that don't feel natural to you, but the effort will be worth it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Someone will try to get you to tone down your opinions a bit today — and you must have none of it. The world needs to hear what you have to say.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You need to act tough today, even if you don't feel tough. Give employers and other important people an image of you that is strong and self-assured, even if that is far from what you actually feel.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a wonderful time for you, a time of exciting adventures and encounters. You certainly won't have any reason to complain that you are bored over the next 24 hours. If anything, there will be too much going on.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have so many options that it may get a bit too confusing. What happens over the next two or three days will nudge you in the right direction. Any choice is a good choice.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
From the look of your solar chart, it would appear that someone is hoping you will say or do something they don't have the guts to say or do themselves. You don't mind.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't stop to question why you are following a certain course of action. The fact that you have begun means you need to go all the way, regardless of whether your initial choice was right or wrong. Just do it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are proud of your openness to new ideas but one idea you encounter today may be a bit too much for you. Does it make you feel uncomfortable that an unpleasant belief may be true?

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It seems you have something to say that is likely to hurt the feelings of more sensitive sorts. Say it anyway because someone has to tell the truth.

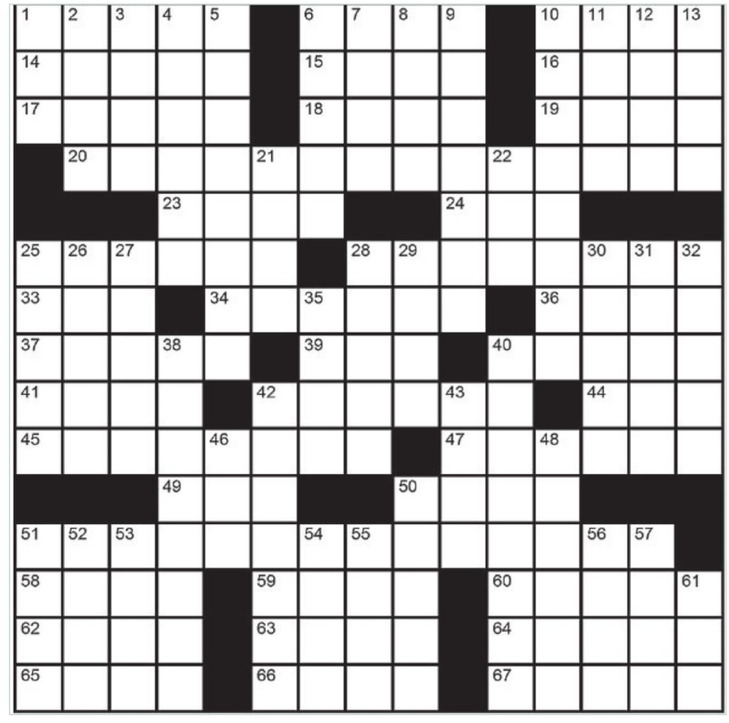
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Spend time with friends today because they can help you get past the negative thoughts you've been having of late. You've done so much for them that they will jump at the chance to repay your kindness.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
What happens today will make it clear where you stand with certain people and why your association is unlikely to last. Not all relationships stand the test of time. Move on to better things. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

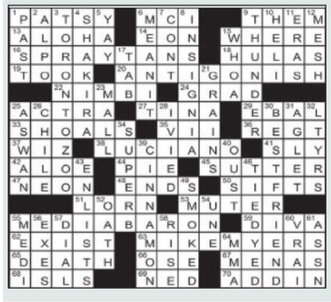
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Cable news channel
6. Cutting remark
10. Gladiator's 451
14. Standoffish
15. Wing-shaped
16. Iron, and others
17. 1994 gold medal figure skater, Oksana __
18. Not wild
19. Kind of lily
20. Its slogan is 'Let's get moving.'
23. Belgium neighbour, for short
24. Anonymous surname
25. __ corpus
28. Canadian show Tracy Moore hosts
33. Ms. Gardner
34. Money, informally
36. Top-__ washer
37. Court garbs
39. Hit the jackpot
40. Singer Ms. Braxton's
41. Classic record label
42. Livestock food
44. 'Select' suffix
45. Ancient strong guy
47. Mimer Mr. Marceau
49. "__ questions?"
50. Flintstones pet
51. Canadian-invented board game: 2 wds.
58. Mystique
59. Hot Heat __": 2 wds.
21. "Don't make __ complicated.": 2 wds.
22. Not forthright
25. Severe
26. "Let's take _ __."
27. Jean de Brunhoff's elephant
28. Lummoxes
29. "..._ __ my Annabel Lee..." - Edgar Allan Poe
30. Ancient Greece column style
31. Gullible
32. Car named after Henry Ford's son
35. "_ __ is me." (Sniff, sniff)
38. Dig up
40. Catch a connecting bus
42. "...only __ __ / I don't know where my soul is..." - Nelly Furtado
43. Title in Turkey
46. Prefix to 'form' (Soldier's suit)
48. Mickey of movies
50. Garbage spots
51. Accept
52. Bits of vocal acrobatics
53. Van Gogh flower
54. Tardy
55. Ship's front
56. "_ __ to please!"
57. England's Newcastle-upon-__
61. Beatles' Pepper, e.g.
60. Becomes threadbare
62. Make a scarf
63. Above
64. "Stand By Me" by Ben _. __
65. 'Fin' finisher
66. Longbow woods
67. Was introduced to again, say

Down
1. Fairy queen in literature
2. __ on some paint
3. 'Para' suffix ("I'm being watched!" feeling)
4. Matt Damon flick, "The __ Supremacy" (2004)
5. Ti-Cats, Stamps and Bombers: 2 wds.
6. Collection of stuff
7. Jai __
8. Incline
9. Scope
10. Diana Krall's musician hubby, Elvis __
11. Three: German
12. Toy building block
13. Glenn Frey's "The

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

					9	4		8
8	4		3	5				9
	7							
3		8			4	6		
9								7
		5	9			3		1
							5	
6				1	3		8	2
2		3	7					

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	8	9	1	7	5	4	3	6
4	7	1	8	6	3	2	5	9
3	6	5	2	4	9	1	7	8
6	3	7	5	1	8	9	2	4
9	1	2	6	3	4	5	8	7
5	4	8	7	9	2	3	6	1
8	9	4	3	2	7	6	1	5
7	2	6	9	5	1	8	4	3
1	5	3	4	8	6	7	9	2

Weather

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
MAX: -1° MIN: -12°	MAX: 11° MIN: -2°	MAX: 3° MIN: -2°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

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METEOROLOGIST
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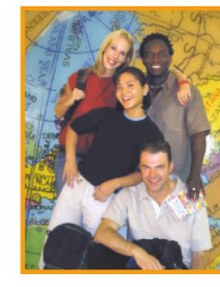

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